

**[ABSTRACT]**

The present invention relates to dishwashers, and more particularly, to a dishwasher and a method for controlling the same, which can measure turbidity of the washing water, and control operation of the dishwasher with reference to the turbidity detected thus, to prevent wasting of water, and optimize a washing time period.

The dishwasher includes a sump for holding washing water, a washing pump for pumping the washing water to provide a portion of the washing water to dishes to be washed through a main flow passage, and a turbidity sensing means for sensing turbidity of the washing water, wherein the turbidity sensing means is positioned at a sampling flow passage through which the other portion of the washing water passes.

The method for controlling a dishwasher includes the steps of putting a washing pump into operation, detecting turbidity of the washing water, adjusting a washing time period preset at a control unit according to the turbidity detected thus, and operating the washing pump according to the washing time period adjusted thus.